



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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September 20, 1985

Mr. Donald G. Prince
Assistant Director/Minerals
Division of State Lands & Forestry
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 400
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1204

Dear Mr. Prince:

RE: Enercor, Rainbow Project, TMA/047/011, Uintah County, Utah

On Thursday, July 31, 1985, Tom Munson and Everett Hooper of the Division staff inspected the Enercor Rainbow Project located in Section 32, Range 25 East, Township 12 South. The inspection was conducted at the request of Mr. John Blake of the Division of State Lands & Forestry (DSLFF). Mr. Blake's request was for recommendation on what could be done to the site to enhance successful revegetation and erosion control.

The inspection revealed that the majority of the area that had been reseeded was bare tar sands, and has very little success. At the present time, conditions at the site exist that would take many years for vegetation to become established and control erosion. To allow the site to be reclaimed in as few of years as possible, the side slopes need to be reduced, soil material placed over the exposed the sands and the area reseeded.

The area of hydrologic concern involves several erosion channels which have formed on the northeastern edge of the pad. The way that the pad area drains, it directs water to these two unprotected channels. Over time they will increase in size and potentially cause considerable erosion in two unprotected areas where the surface flow concentrates at the edge of the pad and velocities increase dramatically. The only option available to alleviate this problem would be to reshape the surface of the pad to drain to the southwestern corner

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where slopes are less and provide protection in the area where flows will leave the pad area. It is felt this could be done and benefit both revegetation concerns by covering up the black tar sands where revegetation success is slim, as well as redirecting the surface water flows away from the erosion channels forming on the northeastern edge of the pad.

After the surface of the pad is reshaped, a thin veneer of soil material of suitable quality should be placed over the exposed tar sands and reseeded.

Any questions, please call Ev Hooper or Tom Munson of my staff

Sincerely,



Lowell P. Braxton
Administrator
Mineral Resource Development
and Reclamation Program

TM/btb
cc: John Blake
Ev Hooper
Tom Munson
John Whitehead
8860R-17 & 18